

MEETING OF THE DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

A meeting of the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation was held at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, 2320 S. DuPont Hwy Dover, Delaware, on December 18, 2019 **with the following members in attendance:**

- Chairman Robert Garey
- William H. Chip Narvel, Jr.
- L. Allen Messick, Jr.
- Peter Martin
- Robert Emerson
- Austin Short, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture on behalf of Secretary Michael T. Scuse

Absent:

- William Vanderwende
- Theodore Bobola, Jr.
- Janice Truitt
- Colleen Davis
- Raymond Bivens

The following Foundation staff members were in attendance:

- Milton Melendez
- Howard Mesick
- Kathi Spangler
- Carrie Wanstall
- Jimmy Kroon

Chairman Garey opened the meeting at 8:35 AM.

I. Preservation Districts:

A. Current Situation Report:

Milton Melendez informed the Board there are currently 1,438 approved and pending districts and expansions in the program encompassing 174,147 acres. There are 102 easements pending settlement for Round 23 and 4 easements pending settlement for Round 22 and 1 easement pending settlement for Round 21; once these are settled there will be 1,004 agricultural easements encompassing approximately 133,933 acres at an approximate cost of \$234,960,607. A total of 47 new applications for calendar year 2019 have been received, totaling 4,013 acres. The preserved lands for Farmland and Forestland Preservation (once Round 21, Round 22 and Round 23 easements settle) will total 1,018 easements encompassing 135,011 acres with an acquisition cost of \$236,524,645.

B. Young Farmers Report

Austin Short advised the Board that there was no new information since the November meeting.

C. Final District Approval

1. **Vanderwende II District (S-19-11-289) *Contingent Sale*** after discussion and examination of the Application Report, **Mr. William “Chip” Narvel, Jr. moved to accept for district eligibility of Vanderwende II District, seconded by Mr. Peter Martin. Motion unanimously approved. Mr. L. Allen Messick, Jr. abstained from voting.**
2. **The Sheats Tract District (K-19-09-290)** had not yet received County approval and will be on the January agenda for Final District Approval.

D. Expansion Eligibility & Final Approval

1. **T & S Farms Expansion of the Fry District (K-19-11-070D) *Contingent Sale*** after discussion and examination of the Application Report, **Mr. L. Allen Messick, Jr. moved to accept for expansion eligibility and final approval, second by Mr. William “Chip” Narvel, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**
2. **Joe Dickerson Farm Expansion of the Hastings District (S-19-11-251F) *Contingent Sale*** after discussion and examination of the Application Report, **Mr. William “Chip” Narvel, Jr. moved to accept for expansion eligibility and final approval, seconded by Mr. Robert Emerson. Motion unanimously approved.**
3. **Ralph Expansion of the Collins District (S-19-08-021Q)** after discussion and examination of the Application Report, **Mr. L. Allen Messick, Jr. moved to accept for expansion eligibility and final approval, second by Mr. Robert Emerson. Motion unanimously approved.**
4. **Airport Expansion of the Collins District (S-19-08-021R)** after discussion and examination of the Application Report, **Mr. Peter Martin moved to accept for expansion eligibility and final approval, second by Mr. William “Chip” Narvel, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**
5. **Henry Expansion of the Collins District (S-19-08-021S)** after discussion and examination of the Application Report, **Mr. William “Chip” Narvel, Jr. moved to accept for expansion eligibility and final approval, second by Mr. Robert Emerson. Motion unanimously approved.**
6. **Consolo Expansion of the Collins District (S-19-08-021T)** after discussion and examination of the Application Report, **Mr. William “Chip” Narvel, Jr. moved to accept for expansion eligibility and final approval, second by Mr. L. Allen Messick, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**
7. **Messick Farms Expansion #2 of the Rust District (S-19-09-034W)** after discussion and

examination of the Application Report, **Mr. William “Chip” Narvel, Jr. moved to accept for expansion eligibility and final approval, second by Mr. Robert Emerson. Motion unanimously approved. Mr. L. Allen Messick, Jr. abstained from voting.**

8. **GRM, LLC Expansion of the Cave Plantation District (S-19-09-060C) after discussion and examination of the Application Report, Mr. William “Chip” Narvel, Jr. moved to accept for expansion eligibility and final approval, second by Mr. Peter Martin. Motion unanimously approved.**
9. **A D Daisey Farms LLC Expansion of the Williamsville District (S-19-09-183D) after discussion and examination of the Application Report, Mr. Peter Martin moved to accept for expansion eligibility and final approval, second by Mr. L. Allen Messick, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

II. Secretary of Agriculture’s Veto:

Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Austin Short, waived the right of veto of behalf of Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Michael T. Scuse, for the above Expansions and Final Approval applications.

III. Opportunity for Public Comments:

No public comments were received.

IV. Minutes:

Chairman Garey asked if there were any comments or changes to the November 20, 2019 meeting minutes that were mailed or emailed to Board Members prior to today’s meeting. **Mr. L. Allen Messick, Jr. moved to approve the November 20, 2019 meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. William “Chip” Narvel, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

V. Financial Highlights:

The **November 30, 2019** Financial Statements were presented by Howard Mesick, who reported that Funds Held by the State were \$37,215.30 and funds in the State Interest Bearing Account were \$342,848.09 for a total of \$380,063.39. Monthly income of \$871.02 was comprised of interest income of \$871.02. November Ordinary Total Expenses were \$55,161.86 resulting in November Net Income of negative \$54,290.84. Positive net Income for the year is \$41,297.25. **Mr. Robert Emerson motioned to accept the November 30, 2019 Financial Statements as presented, seconded by Mr. William “Chip” Narvel, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

VI. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

VII. Adjournment

As there was no further business for the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m. The next meeting of the Foundation is **Wednesday January 15, 2020**, at the Delaware Department of Agriculture beginning promptly at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Garey
Chairman